

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-49. (CANCELED)

50. (NEW) A telecommunications system comprising:

a service control point (SCP) configured to receive a first query for a first call wherein the first query includes a first dialed number associated with a plurality of destinations, process the first dialed number to select a first destination from the plurality of destinations and to determine redirection capabilities for the first destination based upon redirection requirements of the first dialed number, and generate a first query response containing call handling information for the first call including the redirection capabilities for the first destination; and

B a switching system linked to the SCP and configured to transmit the first query to the SCP, receive the first query response from the SCP, and extend the first call from a first calling party to the first destination based on the call handling information for the first call.

51. (NEW) The telecommunications system of claim 50 wherein the SCP is further configured to receive a redirection message for the call, process the redirection message, and generate a redirection response based upon the redirection capabilities of the first destination, and wherein the switching system is further configured to send the redirection message to the SCP, and receive the redirection response from the SCP.

52. (NEW) The telecommunications system of claim 50 wherein the SCP is configured to receive a second query for a second call wherein the second query includes a second dialed number associated with the plurality of destinations, process the second dialed number to select the first destination from the plurality of destinations and to determine new redirect capabilities for the first destination based upon redirection requirements of the second dialed number, and generate a second query response containing call handling information for the second call including the new redirection capabilities for the first destination; and

the switching system configured to transmit the second query to the SCP, receive the second query response from the SCP, and extend the second call from a second calling party to the first destination based on the call handling information for the second call.

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53. (NEW) The telecommunications system of claim 50 wherein the redirection requirements of the first number include allowing the first call to be redirected to a plurality of redirect numbers.

54. (NEW) The telecommunications system of claim 53 wherein the SCP is configured to process the redirection message including a first redirect number of the plurality of redirect numbers to determine redirection capabilities for a second destination based upon redirection requirements of the first redirect number.

55. (NEW) The telecommunications system of claim 54 wherein the switching system is configured to receive the redirection response from the SCP and redirect the first call to the second destination.

56. (NEW) The telecommunications system of claim 50 wherein the switching system is configured to store the redirection capabilities of the first destination.

57. (NEW) The telecommunications system of claim 50 wherein the redirection response comprises a redirection rejection.

58. (NEW) The telecommunications system of claim 50 wherein the redirection message comprises a speed dial number.

59. (NEW) The telecommunications system of claim 50 wherein each one of the plurality of destinations comprises a trunk group for a call center.

60. (NEW) The telecommunications system of claim 50 wherein the first dialed number comprises a toll-free number.

61. (NEW) A method of operating a service control point (SCP) comprising:

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receiving a first query for a first call into the SCP from a switching system wherein the first query includes a first dialed number associated with a plurality of destinations;

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processing the first dialed number to select a first destination from the plurality of destinations and determining redirection capabilities for the first destination based upon redirection requirements of the first dialed number;

generating a first query response containing call handling information for the first call including the redirection capabilities for the first destination; and

transmitting the first query response to the switching system to extend the first call from a first calling party to the first destination based on the call handling information for the first call.

62. (NEW) The method of claim 61 further comprising receiving a redirection message for the call from the switching system, processing the redirection message to generate a redirection response based upon the redirection capabilities of the first destination, and transmitting the redirection response to the switching system;

63. (NEW) The method of claim 61 further comprising:

receiving a second query for a second call wherein the second query includes a second dialed number associated with the plurality of destinations;

processing the second dialed number to select the first destination from the plurality of destinations and to determine new redirect capabilities for the first destination based upon redirection requirements of the second dialed number;

generating a second query response containing call handling information for the second call including the new redirection capabilities for the first destination; and

transmitting the second query response to the switching system to extend the second call from a second calling party to the first destination based on the call handling information for the first call;

64. (NEW) The method of claim 61 wherein the redirection capabilities of the first number include allowing the first call to be redirected to a plurality of redirect numbers.

65. (NEW) The method of claim 64 further comprising processing the redirection message including a first redirect number of the plurality of redirect numbers to determine redirection capabilities for a second destination based upon redirection capabilities of the first redirect number.

66. (NEW) The method of claim 61 wherein the redirection message comprises a speed dial number.

67. (NEW) The method of claim 61 wherein each one of the plurality of destinations comprises a trunk group for a call center.

68. (NEW) The method of claim 61 wherein the first dialed number comprises a toll-free number.

69. (NEW) A software product for use in operating a service control point (SCP), the product comprising:

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processing system instructions operational when executed by a processor to direct an SCP processing system to process a query for a call having a dialed number to select a destination from a plurality of destinations associated with the dialed number, determine redirection capabilities for the destination based upon redirection requirements of the dialed number, and generate a query response containing call handling information for the call including the redirection capabilities for the destination, and wherein the processing system instructions are further operational when executed by the processor to direct the SCP processing system to process a redirection message for the first call to generate a redirection response based upon the redirection capabilities of the destination;

interface instructions operation when executed by the processor to direct an SCP interface to receive the query, receive the redirection message, transmit the query response to extend a calling party to the destination, and transmit the redirection response; and

a storage medium operational to store the processing system instructions and the interface instructions.
